

JPRS 76607

10 October 1980

Sub-Saharan Africa Report

No. 2305



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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SOVIET, CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN AFRICA REVIEWED

Paris REVUE AFRICAINE DE STRATEGIE in French Jul-Aug-Sep 80 pp 6-9

[Article by Zaki Laidi*: "The USSR and Africa--Inevitability of Failure or Dynamics of Power?"]

[Text] Ever since 1974, the increasingly obvious presence of the Soviet Union in Africa has been altering the international balance of power: a destabilizing force, according to some, a supporter of liberation struggles according to others, the Russian military machine has intervened for the first time directly and far from its bases. There are two poles in this penetration: southern Africa, as a result of the Angolan, Mozambican, and Rhodesian gains opening the doors to South Africa, its mineral wealth and its strategic location. The Horn of Africa, as a result of the hold on Ethiopia and South Yemen which provides a support facility on the southern flank of the Middle East. Why this push? Is this a traditional attitude aimed at seizing world power? Economic interests? Ideological struggle? For Gerard Chaliand ("L'Enjeu africain. Stratégie des puissances," Seuil Publishers), the answer is this: "From the Soviet viewpoint, the essential aspect is strategic. It is not that Africa south of the Sahara is a military target but rather it is necessary to have telecommunications links, listening centers, etc. Angola's geographic location on the South Atlantic is ideal in this respect. Likewise ideal are Berbera in Somalia, the coastline or the islands off Eritrea in the Horn. The extent that NATO controls the Cape, Angola and generally speaking southern Africa constitute a preferred terrain of indirect confrontations." To be sure, Soviet policy in Africa is essentially based on its military support for sovereign states. Contrary to their policy concerning the European approaches, the Soviets, at least for the present, withdraw when a country demands that they get out. And what about Cuba? It is impossible to speak of the Soviet presence in Africa without a careful supplementary but nevertheless necessary

study of this little country in the Caribbean. Here the ideological dimension presents a decisive need for revolutionary primacy which Havana cannot impose upon Latin America in view of the all-powerful American presence--at least for the moment. After a document on "The United States and Africa" (REVUE AFRICAINNE DE STRATEGIE, No 6), it was only proper to focus on "The USSR and Africa." Are these two powers manipulating the continent in order to impose a new equilibrium? Each of them has, to say the least, set up an active establishment without precedent in this part of the world, facing the other one. In our next issue, finally, we will look into the role of France in Africa as new elections approach.

When, at the end of the sixties, observers of the African political scene viewed the dark continent as a "strategically sterile" zone regarding any East-West confrontation, the Angolan crisis of 1975 reversed some facts which had been believed to be unalterable. By the same token, it led to a whole series of reflections as to the geopolitical importance of the African continent for the world's diplomatic and strategic balance.

Along with this reevaluation of all of the African problems together, special interest was devoted to the Soviet Union. The action of the latter--which it was believed to be aimed more at the consolidation of detente rather than interventionism or whose activism was perceived along its borders and in the Near East, rather than in remote regions--caused astonishment and raised many questions. By giving decisive military support to the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] and the Ethiopian regime, was the USSR indeed trying to alter the balance of forces between East and West to its own benefit or was it simply moved by the desire to benefit from specific favorable situations?

In other terms, did the USSR in Africa after 1975 carry out a minutely prepared thrust which is part of a coherent overall view or was this, as it was in the past, a move to fill "vacuums" whenever the situation arose? It is after all in medium-range terms that Soviet penetration in Africa must be considered as being precarious or, on the contrary, that it must be interpreted as a lasting "grab."

Soviet policy is based on principles of an ideological nature on which in turn is based the legitimacy of the Soviet government. This being so, it would be naive to consider every action taken by the Soviet Union as being only the result of premeditated and carefully prepared political calculation. To prove that, it suffices to study what Khrushchev's policy was and thus to note the portion of voluntary action, improvisation, and pragmatism in Soviet policy. Conversely, it would be completely wrong to think that the ideological dimension is just a surface thing. For China and the radicalized African forces, militant Marxist ideology has a symbolic significance, if not a real one, which one must not neglect. The "ideological" legitimacy of the Soviet government and the attainment of big-power status by the USSR

thus must be perceived in complementary rather than antinomic terms. These two "functions" have been complementing each other perfectly in Africa since 1975.

One temptation against which we must be on guard is the temptation which consists in viewing Soviet policy in Africa only within an overall strategic perspective. Of course, this aspect of things should not be neglected and the latest events in Afghanistan perfectly well illustrate the dynamics of Soviet military power. But on the other hand one must emphasize the fact that the USSR, like any foreign power, must come to terms with local African realities. The leaders of the African states are entirely responsible in their appeal to foreign powers. Under these conditions, the relations which the Soviet Union maintains with the African powers are not devoid of restraints as far as the Soviet Union is concerned.

Having outlined these initial problems, it seems a good idea to us to develop our arguments along two lines. The first one involves the Soviet policy force lines since 1960 and the second one deals with the factors of continuity and interruption which the latter has been presenting since 1975.

Historical Perspective

At the start of the sixties, Soviet policy heavily bore the imprint of Khrushchev. The latter did manifest a priority interest in the Near East and was not disinterested in Dark Africa but, from the viewpoint of the 20th CPSU Congress, the African continent looked like a geographic zone perfectly suitable for "noncapitalist development" and for "national democracy."

Two specifically African factors were at that time considered as being particularly helpful in speeding up the revolutionary process in Africa: the weakness of the national bourgeoisie and the existence of collective land ownership. Considering political determination as the essential moving force behind social change, the Soviets naturally were persuaded to concentrate their efforts on certain countries in which they identified "key men."

Their first actions, between 1959 and 1961, were aimed at the Guinea of Sekou Toure. Favorably impressed by his anti-imperialist ardor, the Soviets thought that they could be the big beneficiaries of the break between France and Guinea. A year later, they tried to give Lumumba diplomatic and logistic support in the Congo. After the failure of their undertaking in the Congo and after the cooling of relations between the Soviet Union and Guinea in 1961, the Soviets directed their favors toward the Ghana of N'Krumah whose Pan-Africanism they had been afraid of for a while and the Mali of Modibo Keita. Promoting the development of government-controlled economies in these countries, based on the development models of the republics in the eastern part of the Soviet Union, the USSR, starting in 1963, tried to commit these African key countries no longer on the simple road

of noncapitalist transition but on the road of "scientific socialism." It thus hoped to promote the break between these African countries and the developed world and, by the same token, to render the construction of socialism in those countries irreversible.

It must be pointed out here that this Soviet support came above all in the diplomatic and ideological fields. Although an effort was made toward countries such as Guinea, Mali, or Ghana, economic aid remained absolutely very limited, amounting to about 1/20 of all of the Soviet Union's aid commitments to the countries of the Third World.

During the second half of the sixties, especially after Khrushchev's ouster, African policy was revised. Apart from the reduction in Soviet financial commitments in that part of the world, Khrushchev's optimism, with its overtones of voluntary aid, yielded to a tempered ideological pragmatism. Africa was no longer viewed as a possible field of extension of revolutionary experiences but as a complex continent which was difficult to reduce to summary classification. There are several reasons for this Soviet disappointment in Africa.

The Soviet positions faded, one by one. Starting in 1961, Soviet-Guinean relations deteriorated and that led to the expulsion of the Soviet ambassador. Soviet-Ghanaian relations and Soviet-Malian relations did not withstand the downfall of N'Krumah in 1966 and of Modibo Keita in 1968. The 1960 Congo crisis had already demonstrated the limited nature of advantages which the USSR could derive from a conflict situation in Africa.

Considering the overall results of its actions in Africa as generally negative, the USSR preferred to concentrate its efforts on the critical regions, such as the Near East, particularly after the 1967 war.

Between 1965 and 1975, the profile of Soviet policy in Africa thus remained low. Its aid, already reduced when compared to the past, became symbolic and between 1970 and 1976 dropped to a level definitely below that of the PRC¹.

In political terms, the USSR displayed interest in two countries: Nigeria whom it gave limited but effective military and diplomatic support² and Somalia with whom it developed very strong bonds, starting in 1969. Now, in both cases, Soviet action was far from following a planned and well-prepared political impulse. During the Nigerian civil war, the Soviet Union neither during nor after the conflict tried to strengthen its positions in the country in any ostensible fashion. Its commitment to the federal government was perfectly in line with the objectives which Soviet policy had selected for itself in Africa during that time: promote political stability on the dark continent. In Somalia, the Soviet presence was explained primarily by the withdrawal of Soviet positions from the Sudan in 1971 and Egypt in 1978.

Starting in 1975, the USSR has been manifesting a very definite recovery of interest in the African continent, going so far as to intervene militarily by providing major logistic support for the MPLA as well as Ethiopia. Beyond the vicissitudes of these operations, it is important to try to discover the foundations of this new policy by looking into the features of continuity and rupture which it presents with respect to the past.

Features of Rupture and Continuity in Soviet Policy

Continuity Factors

After 1975, as in the past, Soviet action was tied to the existence of local situations created by the Africans themselves. In Ethiopia, the USSR did not in any way try to stir up the conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia. On the contrary, it tried in vain to promote--within the framework of a political federation on the Horn of Africa--a peaceful solution which would have enabled it to preserve its interests both in Somalia and in Ethiopia. If, as a last resort, the USSR chose Ethiopia against Somalia, this is because it could not or did not know how to overcome the major obstacle which was represented by Somalian nationalism. Today, as yesterday, the action of the Soviet Union in Africa appeared above all tied to conflict situations (diplomatic isolation, crisis with old colonial powers or armed conflict).

Because it is tied to temporary conflict situations, the Soviet presence in Africa remains rather precarious. After the overthrow of N'Krumah and Modibo Keita, the relations which the USSR maintained with Ghana deteriorated. As for Soviet-Malian relations, although they were less affected by the 1968 coup d'état, they have remained very limited since then. In the Sudan, the positions of the USSR were shaken by the attempted coup d'état in 1971. In Nigeria, following the civil war to whose outcome it had contributed decisively, the USSR was no longer able to take the place of Westerners whose ambiguous attitude during the conflict had irritated the Nigerians so much. In Somalia, finally, which in certain superficial judgments appeared as an impenetrable citadel of the USSR in Africa³, Soviet influence in that country was reduced to nothing in the autumn of 1977.

The Soviets are thus having a persistent difficulty in lastingly preserving their presence in Africa, once a conflict has been settled. This raises the problem of adaptation of the nonmilitary aid which the Soviet Union is capable of giving the African countries. Beyond the constant features of that policy, nothing could be more wrong than to try to believe the exactly opposite idea according to which Soviet policy is doomed to failure in the long run. Major factors have come up both on the Soviet side and the African side since 1975.

Rupture Factors

Since 1975, the Soviet Union has managed to detect and keep up with the ideological radicalization of certain countries (Angola, Ethiopia) or certain situations (the problems in southern Africa). Soviet writings place particular emphasis on the role of the radicalized urban petty bourgeoisie which is judged as being "the foundation of the forces acting for social progress"⁴.

Having learned the lessons from its earlier failures, the USSR is trying to promote the movement among its allies on the basis of mutual concessions. We saw that quite clearly in Eritrea where the USSR was forced to yield to the nationalist demands of the leaders of the Derg. More than ever before, in Africa, the relationships which the big powers in general and the USSR in particular maintain with the African states are relationships of bilateral dependence.

After its intervention in Angola, the USSR proved that it had achieved big-power status. It did that by demonstrating that it is capable of rapidly and effectively intervening anywhere on earth. The Soviet Union is wiping out the afronts which it had to undergo in the Congo and Cuba.

It is moreover the symbolic strategic dimension of the conflict, rather than the local significance, which caused worry in the United States at the time of the Angolan affair.

The terms of the Chinese-Soviet conflict in Africa since 1975 have been completely different from what they were early in the sixties. By demonstrating that they can concretely support African revolutionary forces, the Soviets placed the Chinese in the uncomfortable situation of an allied country of the West, supporting discredited regimes and unable to provide major support for Africa⁵. One of the major aces of Soviet policy in Africa thus resides in the perfect balance between its demands as a strategic power integrating Africa into a global geopolitical perspective as a revolutionary country whose active military dimension coincides with the interests of the majority of the states in dark Africa.

Because of its own military presence, that of Cuba and that of the GDR, the Soviet Union has by no means negligible bases in dealing with countries such as Angola and Ethiopia.

In Africa, the USSR is confronted with new types of conflicts which no longer simply imply opposition between independence movements and Western colonial powers but between liberation fronts and African states, as in the Sahara or in Eritrea⁶.

Benefiting from the existence of favorable situations, the USSR has for several years considerably strengthened its positions in Africa. This being so, it is essential not to lose sight of the fact, that, in the final analysis, USSR actions depend heavily on the desire of the countries which, under specific conditions, appeal to it.

Soviet-African Trade Structure

(In percentages) Exports: machinery and equipment 68.3; food products 6.8; imports: farm products 79.4; mineral raw materials 9.8.

There are two observations that must be made regarding Soviet-African trade relations: the first one is that the flow of trade is not directly tied to political considerations; the second one shows that the Soviet Union's commercial interest in Africa involves mineral raw materials only on a secondary basis.

Soviet and Allied Presence*

| Military Presence | | Civilian Presence |
|-------------------|--------|-------------------|
| USSR | 2,000 | 18,000 |
| Cuba | 37,000 | 7,500 |
| GDR | 2,000 | |

*According to J. Isnard, *LE MONDE*, 20 Dec 79.

After the start of the secessions, Soviet military assistance to Africa south of the Sahara was stepped up considerably. For Ethiopia alone, in 1977-1978, it came to \$2 billion or 30 percent of Soviet arms sales to developing countries.

Soviet Military Aid to Dark Africa, 1956-1976* (in millions of dollars)

| | | | |
|--------|-----|----------|-----|
| Angola | 200 | Nigeria | 10 |
| Congo | 15 | Uganda | 20 |
| Ghana | 10 | Somalia | 115 |
| Guinea | 35 | Sudan | 65 |
| Mali | 10 | Tanzania | 5 |

*According to "The USSR and the Third World," Documentation Service of the United States Congress, 8 May 1977.

FOOTNOTES

* Researcher associated with CHEAM (Center of Higher Studies on Modern Africa and Asia), author of "The Big Powers and Africa," CAHIERS DU CHEAM, No 7, National Political Science Foundation, Paris, September 1979; contributor to the following magazines: DEFENSE NATIONAL, L'AFRIQUE ET L'ASIE MODERNES, L'ARMEE AFRICAINE, and REVUE FRANCAISE D'ETUDES POLITIQUES AFRICAINES.

1. Between 1970 and 1976, Soviet aid commitments came to \$14 million, whereas those of China came to \$1.6 billion. These figures however must be interpreted with great caution because the difference between aid commitments and aid actually given is great.

2. Soviet military aid to Nigeria was confined to the dispatch of 20 technicians charged with maintaining 20 MiG-19 aircraft and six Czech L-29 aircraft.
3. Contrary to certain ideas now accepted, it would rather seem that the Soviet installations at Berbera were rather limited. As further evidence of the fluidity of African situations there is talk today, in Somalia, of granting the United States facilities within the framework of the ROSE (Regional Operations Systems Operations) plan, at Berbera (LE MONDE, 25 December 1979).
4. Brutete, J. M., "National Liberation Revolutions Today," Moscow, Progress Publishers, 1977, p 256.
5. Marron, John A., "Southern Africa after the Collapse of Portuguese Rule," in Fisher, Helen (editor), "Africa from Mystery to Maze," Lexington Books, 1976, p 101.
6. On that point, see Alain Fenet et al., "La Question de l'Erythrée," International Law and Policy of the Big Two; Center of International Relations and Political Science, University of Picardie, Paris, PUP [French University Press], 1979.

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CUBAN COMMITMENT IN AFRICA ANALYZED

Paris REVUE AFRICAINNE DE STRATEGIE in French Jul-Aug-Sep 80 pp 10-13

[Article by Pascal Boniface, research attaché, Disarmament Study and Research Center: "The USSR and Africa--And What About Cuba?"]

[Text] It was January 1959 and the moment had come for the first decolonization phase in Africa when Fidel Castro and his "bearded bunch" paraded in triumph in Havana. One must not consider this parallel a simple chronological coincidence.

While the young team (Fidel Castro, his brother Raul, Ernesto "Che" Guevara were barely 30 years old) which seized power in Cuba revealed a composite political ideology, there was one main idea which united it: anti-imperialism and Third Worldism. Indeed, Castro and his companions in 1959, without rejecting Marxism as an instrument of analysis, were not communists. They found the latter to be too "cautious" whereas they were very spontaneous and even adventurist; that at least is what the orthodox communist of the Socialist People's Party said (PSP, whose merger with M-26-VII, the Castro movement, was to form the present-day Cuban CP).

Revolutionary humanism--Castro's nationalism and program--is very much characterized by the "spirit of Bandung." Cuba furthermore immediately joined the nonaligned camp in Belgrade in 1961 and proclaimed its solidarity with the peoples of the Third World who were struggling for their liberation. This solidarity was not just verbal and platonic but was accompanied by a real commitment on the African continent.

Starting in September 1959, Guevara undertook a three-month journey to Africa and Asia where he was warmly received. In 1962, Amílcar Cabral, leader of the PAIGC (African Independence Party of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde), appealed for Cuban aid in the form of military equipment to counterbalance Soviet influence. Next year, Guevara again packed his bags and this time went to Algeria on a trip which ended with the dispatch of Soviet advisors to that country. In 1964, the rebels which overthrew the Zanzibar government included men who had been trained in Cuba.

Nineteen sixty-five is an important date for the Cubans. It marks the start of contacts with the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] and the MLSTP (Liberation Movement of Sao Tome and Principe). Guevara made another trip throughout Africa (Mali, Congo-Brazzaville, Ghana, Guinea, Algeria) in the course of which he met Cabral and established contact with the FRELIMO [Mozambique Liberation Front]. Shortly after his return to Cuba on 15 March, he disappeared. It was learned later that--before he died in Bolivia--that he had returned to Africa to try to get the Lumumbist guerrilla war going again.

In 1966, Sekou Toure--who wanted to avoid the fate of N'Krumah--appealed to the Cubans for protection against a possible coup d'état. Havana sent him 1,000 soldiers.

That same year, the Tricontinental, the most militarist version of the non-aligned, met in Havana. The year 1967 brought the start of aid to the black insurgents of Rhodesia and in 1968 the Eritrean rebels began to get training in Cuba.

That was the first phase of Cuban intervention in Africa--although materially speaking it was of little importance. Cuba is poor and devotes its energy above all to Latin America. Its action is aimed more at decolonization movements and much less frequently at countries as such. It is non-selective, aimed at all anti-imperialist and Third World movements which ask for it.

From 1968 until 1975, Cuba watched the extinction of revolutionary forces in Latin America, the tragic end of the Allende experiment and the failure of the "Great Harvest" of 1970 which was to assure the island's economic takeoff by giving it a harvest of 10 million tons of sugar cane.

During that time, it held on to its gains in Africa and did not make any spectacular advances. The year 1975 marked the beginning of the second phase of Cuban intervention in Africa which was to be massive and was aimed more at countries; it consisted above all in providing more selective aid to those who espoused Marxism.

While the Cuban revolution had a considerable impact in the Third World, both because of its warm and nonsectarian forms and because of the challenge it represented to the powerful American neighbor, the Third World entered the Cuban strategic field. For the young Cuban leaders, Third Worldism was both an ideological concern and a pragmatic matter. They would like to break out of their isolation with the help of other "sister nations" against the United States. And, although it is true that the Cubans turned their efforts and their hopes primarily toward South America, Africa was far from negligible. The island's ethnic makeup as a matter of fact rather closely resembles that of the African continent. In Cuba, 25 percent of the population are black and 60 percent are of mixed ancestry. The customs, mentalities, and even the music are close to those of Africa. In 1975, Castro defined Cuba not only as a Latin American

nation but also as a "Latin-African" nation and the Atlantic Ocean is viewed not as a barrier but as a link. Besides, for Castro, Africa is currently the weak link in the imperialist chain and presents the advantage of having little or no middle class, a class which in Latin America is turning toward fascism. Some people also think that Cuba's current intervention in Africa is something that is being done independently of Moscow. Now, the most widely held interpretation has it that Cuba is only Moscow's foreign legion.

We must however note the constant improvement in the political relations between the USSR and Cuba, particularly regarding foreign policy, a field which earlier was the result of discord.

We can distinguish three stages in Soviet-Cuban relations:

From 1959 until 1963, there was growing USSR interest in Cuba. The Soviet leaders, surprised by Castro's armed victory, while the PSP was preaching the legalist way, quickly developed enthusiasm for a revolution which battered the Americans and which proved that the USSR was the best ally of the Third World against imperialism. At the time of the Khrushchevian dynamism, Cuba was proof that the wheel of history was working "for scientific socialism," to which the Third World would rally progressively.

But Cuba, for its part, had no choice: the bridges with the United States and its allies had been burned and it could only turn to the USSR.

The second stage began in 1963 and brought disillusionment. Cuba felt cheated since the missile crisis had been resolved behind its back, directly by the United States and the Soviet Union. Moreover, disagreements with the latter as to the spread of the revolution in Latin America widened the breach. Supported by the USSR, the communist parties on the Latin America continent came out in favor of the legal way for the transition to socialism. The Bolivian CP, for example, did not support the guerrilla operation mounted by "Che" in 1966-1967. Castro thinks that "it is the duty of a revolutionary to make the revolution" and thundered against softness, that is, the treason of the orthodox communists.

The rather restrained approval of Soviet intervention in Czechoslovakia marks the start of the third stage, the stage of reconciliation and a community of viewpoints. This meant that Cuba, the prodigal child, had returned to the socialist family.

While the Cubans were able to make major material sacrifices toward the spread of the revolution in Latin America, this sort of thing became less supportable when this hope proved to be unfeasible. Besides, this was a time for internal consolidation and for putting the Cuban economy back in order. After the American embargo, it purchased the island's sugar output and supplied Cuba with the petroleum which it was badly in need of, as well as industrial products and agricultural equipment.

In 1972, the signing of economic agreements, extending the repayment of a large portion of the Cuban debt until 1986, provided for new short-term loans and higher purchasing prices for Cuban sugar and nickel. Cuba, in turn, entered the economic organization of the Eastern countries, the CEMA. The 1972 agreements more than tripled the volume of trade between the two countries which rose from \$1 billion in 1972 to \$3.5 billion in 1975.

Cuban foreign policy did not necessarily have the same objectives as Soviet foreign policy.

We can distinguish that there are three tendencies prevailing in Havana:

The pragmatic tendency which consists of technocrats and the former members of the PSP, supported by the USSR; that tendency emphasizes the island's economic development and is in favor of an opening toward the West. Its leader is Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice premier and former leader of the PSP.

Fidel Castro represents the revolutionary tendency which preaches the exporting of the revolution to the Third World, although more selectively than during the sixties, in order not to interfere with economic growth. From that viewpoint, exporting the revolution should make it possible to find new allies in order to reduce the dependence on the USSR.

The third tendency, finally, is the tendency of Raul Castro, representing the interests of the army. Dissatisfied with having been confined to the defense of the island, removed from government administration, it wants to be able to play a role abroad.

Intervention in Africa since 1975 thus constitutes a victory of the alliance of the last two tendencies over the first one. It is true that Cuban intervention in Africa serves the USSR. This intervention enables the USSR to make points with the Third World without anybody being able to accuse it of sabotaging detente too directly.

Cuban strategy presents specific features with respect to its protectorate. But while, ideologically speaking, Cuban strategy can be independent of that of the USSR, militarily it is dependent on the latter. Cuba's military expenditures amount to 8 percent of its GNP. Its army consists of about 190,000 men, both regulars and draftees, the latter putting in 3 years.

Cuba has no significant armament industry and is entirely dependent on the USSR for the procurement of military materiel. Its equipment is an assortment of outmoded models and highly sophisticated materiel.

The army (160,000 men), for example, has 600 tanks, including 60 T-54 tanks which are real museum pieces. Parallel to that, it has the BTR-1 and BTR-40, 60, and 152 light armored vehicles. It also has the Frog-4 surface-to-surface missiles and the Sam-7 surface-to-air missiles.

The navy (10,000 men) has a reasonable tactical and material efficiency level. The latest Soviet deliveries included eight Zhuk patrol craft (1975), six OSA-1 (1972, 1973, 1974) and OSA-II (1977) missile boats. The air force (20,000 men) is made up of five attack squadrons equipped with MiG-21 aircraft, four fighter-bomber squadrons with MiG-17 aircraft, and finally two transport squadrons with 50 Antonov AN2 and AW24 aircraft as well as Ilyushin-14 aircraft. Besides, Cuba received MiG-23 planes in 1978.

As we can see, Soviet aid is vital to Cuba. Cuba is not a member of the Warsaw Pact but signed a defense and mutual assistance treaty with the USSR. Soviet military aid is estimated at \$150 million per year. Now, we must note the absence of Cuban equipment, transportation capacities and financial resources.

At this time there are 45,000 Cubans in Africa (since the island has 9.5 million inhabitants, that represents one out of every 225 citizens), including 25,000 military personnel (or almost 1/6 of the national army).

At the July 1977 Libreville OAU summit, the heads of state expressed their concern for the fight against "foreign intervention" in Africa. It is above all the presence of Cuban soldiers in Angola and Ethiopia that worries the moderate chiefs of state. While Castro keeps talking about "internationalist duty," Houphouet-Boigny speaks of "pernicious colonialism."

Since 1975, the Cuban presence has been developed above all in the Portuguese-speaking African countries which achieved independence and it is concentrated above all in two countries--Angola and Ethiopia.

In Angola, the Marxist-oriented MPLA, tied to Cuba since 1965, in August 1975 drove the FNLA [Angolan National Liberation Front] and the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] out of Luanda and managed to occupy most of the territory in order to seize power only after the declaration of independence scheduled for 11 November.

Now, the FNLA and UNITA, supported, respectively, by Zaire and South Africa, established a joint general staff and rapidly reduced the size of territory controlled by the MPLA. Cuba organized "Operation Carlota" from 23 October 1975 until the start of 1976, sending 20,000 men. With peace restored, Castro began to withdraw 3,000 soldiers on 21 September 1976. But the South African threat and especially the persistence of UNITA guerrilla operations--whose leader Savimbi belongs to the Ovimbundu tribe, the numerically strongest in Angola--forced him to maintain a strong contingent there. In June 1977, he admitted that had stopped withdrawing his troops; the number of military advisors and soldiers stationed in Angola now is estimated at 19,000.

During the second Shaba War, unleashed in May 1978, the Americans declared that the Cubans were training the Katanga rebels. Castro rejected any

responsibility. On 13 June 1978, in an interview given THE NEW YORK TIMES, he accused Brezhnev of having manipulated Carter and declared that, for the first time in his career, he had provided information to the Americans, informing them of the imminence of the invasion. The fact is that nobody was able to produce the slightest evidence as to Cuban participation in that affair.

While the MPLA is a long-standing ally, the Cuban-Ethiopian idyll is much more recent. From the time of the Negus, Cuba supported the domestic enemy (the Eritrean guerrillas) and the foreign rival (Somalia). When Mengistu, a follower of scientific socialism, seized power, the scheme was modified.

The Soviets were dreaming of a socialist federation consisting of Somalia, Ethiopia, and South Yemen, permitting control of the Red Sea and a support base in the Indian Ocean. Castro accepted that project and, during his long African trip in March 1977, he tried to convince Siad Barre. The latter's refusal led to a cooling of relations between the two countries. Castro moreover was convinced that it was necessary to play the Ethiopian card in a politically more orthodox fashion.

In May 1977, 50 Cuban advisors arrived in Addis-Ababa. They had the mission of teaching Ethiopian military personnel how to use recently acquired Soviet equipment. When, at the end of 1977, Somalia intervened in Ogaden, Cuba sent 500 men and after that 1,000 men before the end of the year and organized a real airlift between Havana and Addis via Luanda with Ilyusin-62 and Boeing-707 aircraft. At the end of 1977, 10,000 men were sent within 2 months, followed by 7,000 in March 1978. Within a span of 10 months, Cuba was thus able to deploy a considerable force on an African front very far from its territory. In the Ogaden war, the Cubans essentially provided technical assistance and pilots. While the rupture with Somalia was not too painful for Cuba, the Eritrean is much more troublesome. Eritrea has been in revolt for 18 years and the Eritreans, who controlled as much as 90 percent of the territory, have been supported by the Cubans for 12 years.

The Ethiopians, for whom Eritrea represents their only outlet to the sea, did not wish to yield. The Cubans tried to act as mediators, even going so far as to forcing Mengistu to sit down at the negotiating table. But the negotiations failed. The Cubans recommended "a political solution to the Eritrean problem which must be developed through the recognition of the rights of the people within a united Ethiopia."

On 24 March, the London spokesman of the People's Front for the Liberation of Eritrea reported that 4,000 Cubans were at Ammara and played a major support role for the Ethiopian army although they did not directly participate in the fighting. This rule seems to have been followed afterward in 1979 when 2,000 Soviets participated directly in combat.

In August 1979, Cuba withdrew 2,000-3,000 men and thus left close to 15,000 soldiers, not counting 500 civilian advisors.

5058

CSO:4400

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

ANTI-SOUTH AFRICA CAMPAIGN--The OAU has appealed to all member states and to the international community to further isolate the racist Pretoria regime and to intensify the international campaign for comprehensive sanctions against it. In a press statement released in Addis Ababa yesterday on the occasion of South Africa's martyr day, the OAU noted that despite the resistance and martyrdom, more than 18 million Africans were still deprived of their fundamental rights by 4 million whites. The statement said that 87 percent of the total land in the apartheid country was possessed by the racist white minority, and the mineral and agricultural resources of the country were also plundered by the whites. The statement pointed out that the martyrdom of Africans was the result of the sinister strategy of the transnational corporations cooperating with the racist regime. The OAU has dismissed Pretoria's new move toward the diplomatic offensive, dubbed the constellation of South African states, as a maneuver meant to cause confusion and undermine African unity. [Text] [LD111922 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 11 Sep 80 EA]

NIGERIAN TIES WITH ZAIRE--Nigeria has expressed her willingness to explore ways of strengthening economic ties with the Republic of Zaire. To this end, some federal government officials will get together soon to study details of future bilateral trade agreements to be signed between the two countries. President Shehu Shagari stated this in Lagos today when he received a message from his Zairian counterpart, Gen Mobutu Sese Seko. He noted that both countries shared common views on economic matters affecting Africa. The message which was delivered by the Zairian minister for energy, Mr Mananga Ma Phoba, expressed that country's desire to step up economic cooperation with Nigeria, especially in the field of energy. [Text] [AB242133 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 24 Sep 80]

CSO: 4420

ANGOLA

BRIEFS

JAPANESE COMPANY--Luanda, 28 Sep (AFP)--The Japanese Mitsui Company has opened an office here which will initially help solve agricultural problems in Angola. The office, the 138th Mitsui office in the world, plans to extend its interests to shipbuilding, industry, transport and construction. Angolan Foreign Trade Minister Lopo do Nascimento speaking at the opening stressed the importance of after-sales service and training schemes for Angolans. Angola already cooperated with 60 countries and planned to further extend cooperation with foreign companies, he added. [Text] [Paris AFP in English 1424 GMT 28 Sep 80 AB]

CSO: 4420

SASSOU-N'GUESSO URGES GREATER EFFORTS TO OVERCOME CRISIS

AB011754 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 1 Oct 80

[Excerpts] The conference on state firms ended well yesterday. The closing ceremony which took place at the (?Vog Cinema) was presided over by Col Denis Sassou-n'Gueso. The presence of the head of state at the opening and closing ceremonies and the messages he conveyed on these occasions prove the determination of the political leaders to revive our economy.

Now that measures had been drawn up for the revival of our state firms and now that the charter of state firms have been adopted, the next step will be to apply the measures concretely. The success or the failure of the plan for economic revival will depend on the human element. In his message the chairman of the Central Committee stressed the importance of the human element and it is on the human level that the party and the state will henceforth concentrate their main efforts, in order to get employees to change their attitude towards work.

President Denis Sassou-n'Gueso also appealed to political officials not to forget their role of instilling awareness into the workers and mobilizing them, especially in these difficult times the economy is passing through. The chairman of the Central Committee stressed the importance of the funds which will be released for the [word indistinct] firms, adding that a special effort must be made to avoid waste.

Then the president repeated a fact that he has been stressing these past months and that is that there is both an economic and a social crisis: "[Name indistinct] you coined a phrase which refers to it namely, that finer days are not yet ahead. Yes, Jean Paul Morosi, finer days are indeed not ahead." President Denis Sassou-n'Gueso meant to point out by these words that the economic crisis is a current one, in order to dispell any illusions to the contrary. The head of state also meant to warn people against the dangerous tendency of interpreting the slight improvement in the financial sector, which has led to the regular payment of salaries in the public sector, as the result of an increase in production and the acquisition of new wealth. This he says is mere wishful thinking.

You will recall that at the opening of the administrative session of the National Assembly the president of the republic tried to destroy the illusion that workers in the national sector might have of the existence of some kind of manna which would lead to the growth of the national product and the incomes of all. We even have a copy of his speech to refer to. The crisis cannot be solved by magic. It exists, so there is no need to have illusions to the contrary.

In other words it would be irresponsible and foolhardy for one to have any illusions in view of the present state of affairs. If there is to be any improvement at all it will depend on whether we increase our efforts at work, and stop our negligent attitude towards work. It is clear that President Denis Sassou-n'Guezzo is seriously preoccupied with the problem of man in general, and civil servants in particular. This is reason for his pressing and renewed appeal to the civil servants, whose action during this new phase is important. They need to prove their intellectual, technical and moral abilities to help this project to succeed. It is a big project to which President Denis Sassou-n'Guezzo attaches a lot of importance. That is why he says that it is out of the question that we waste funds and also out of the question that the economy remain in the same state after such a huge investment.

The president has given several warnings. It is unacceptable to waste and it will be more than a criminal act to neglect one's management duties, which is quite understandable. As measures have been drawn up it is now time to take concrete action. Huge sums will be allocated to the firms which need to be revived. If this revival plan fails it will jeopardize the future of the unemployed and the job-seekers, especially the youth. This revival must therefore succeed in order to guarantee a secure future not only for the youth but for the whole of Congo.

CSO: 4400

RESULTS OF ATC BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING 'POSITIVE'

Brazzaville MWETI in French 23 Aug 80 p 3

[Article: by Auguste Batantou: "Meeting of Board of Directors of ATC at Pointe-Noire: Improved Situation, Optimistic About Future"]

[Text] A meeting of the board of directors of the Trans-Congolese Communications Agency was held on 18 August in the conference room of the ATC under the chairmanship of comrade Hilaire Mounthault, member of the Central Committee of the Congolese Labor Party and minister of transport and of civil aviation. Participating in the meeting were the following members of the Central Committee, Comrades Victor Tamba-Tamba and Ossebi-Oko, respectively minister of labor and of justice and member of the permanent secretariat of the CSC [Congolese Trade Union Confederation].

The agenda for this meeting covered about seven issues involving, among other matters, plans for the reorganization of companies, ATC charges, the realignment of the CFCO [Congo-Ocean Railroad], investments, personnel issues, and the report of the last meeting of the board of directors.

Among the results recorded at the end of the meeting the final communique notes that the plans for the reorganization of companies will be the object of a detailed study by the national commission for reorganization of state enterprises. The communique further stated that the meeting of the board of directors took note of the progress in the realignment of the CFCO and approved the investment program of the ATC.

On the whole this meeting of the board of directors took place in an atmosphere of determination. The minister of transport and civil aviation praised the competence of the participants, which made it possible to come to an end with results which were clearly very positive.

Comrade Hilaire Mounthault, who thus announced the end of this session of the board of directors of the ATC, reiterated his call for sacrifice. Because, according to him, the present situation, although better than it was a year ago, must not lead people to be wasteful: "austerity continues."

The minister of transport and of civil aviation, in effect, had made the same points at the opening of the meeting of the executive officers of the ATC which had preceded this meeting of the board of directors by one day. In this way he recalled the attitude which the officials of the ATC must have at all levels with a view to better performance and in accordance with the directives of the party, particularly those concerned with the execution of the complementary program. Comrade Hilaire Mounthault stressed this point, so that all activity set out in this program and concerning the ATC might be entirely completed before the beginning of next December.

The minister of transport and of civil aviation, moreover, recommended strictness in management and in attendance on the job by everyone (chiefs of service sections and officials of the party, of trade unions, and of other mass organizations).

Outside the meeting of the board of directors the director general of the ATC, Comrade Francois Bita, reviewed for us the present situation of this enterprise. He confirmed the analysis which the minister of transport and civil aviation had made of it.

An Optimistic Future for the ATC

The financial situation of the Transcongoles Communications Agency, in any case, has improved. The transportation of goods, which once presented problems, today is more or less 100 percent certain. Fuels are equally transported in a regular way.

This remarkable success of the ATC is due, in large part, to an examination of conscience by all concerned. The "tough" [coup de poing] operation carried out at the shops located at Km 4 moreover made it possible to be sure of at least 55 percent of the locomotives being available instead of the 25 to 30 percent in 1979.

However, the ATC is not at the end of its troubles, as Comrade Francois Bita indicated. "We see light at the end of the tunnel, but we're not out of there yet," he said. He indicated in particular that the major problem remaining to be resolved is related to the personnel. It is not a matter of a surplus of personnel but rather, "the lack of discipline of employees in their work."

Many employees, in effect, do not pay attention to the security rules. That often involves a considerable loss of time, which has repercussions on performance. The director general of the ATC counts on the officials of the Party, of the trade unions, of the UJSC [Union of Congolese Socialist Youth], and of the URFC [Revolutionary Union of Congolese Women] to encourage workers at all levels to respect discipline in that way. "That will allow us," he said, "to respond with confidence to the expectations of the Congolese people and to increase profits and production."

The other difficulties arise from the shortage of passenger coaches and of boats for the transportation of passengers on the river. River transports only have available 29,000 places per year, whereas 52,000 are needed to take care of the present volume of travelers. The loss of barges in 1977 further aggravated this shortage. And in spite of the difficulties in finding the necessary financing to remedy this situation, negotiations are under way with the World Bank and the Federal Republic of Germany to resolve the problem.

The use of containers as a modern means of transport of goods has brought the ATC to equip the Brazzaville terminal with a container crane and to obtain 30 railroad cars for carrying containers. In spite of everything, said the director general of the ATC, one can look with optimism at the future of this enterprise.

5170
CSO: 4400

FOREIGN INTERFERENCE IN FORESTRY FIELD DECRIED

Libreville L'UNION in French 1 Sep 80 p 1

[Article by Makaya]

[Text] It can be said that the Gabonese forestry sector is experiencing many difficulties at this moment. Decrease in investments, stagnation of production and the decrease of exports, as the experts say in their wise economic language.

What I, Makaya, do not understand of all that is that the great foresters want to take advantage of this situation to outwit national developers. While the former, who have great means, should go according to regulations into the second and third forestry zone and leave the first zone, which covers the coastline, to the Gabonese, this rule is no longer respected.

Taking into account the difficulties of national developers, the European foresters have returned in mass to the coastline region. There they cut and transport at a lesser cost the Okoume and other exportable species under the observant eye of our fellow citizens who, lacking financial means, are compelled to yield ground.

For them, that is it!

9341
CSO: 4400

SPECIAL PRIVILEGES FOR OFFICIALS SCORED

Libreville L'UNION in French 3 Sep 80 p 1

[Article by Makaya]

[Text] All users of government services know the case of the locked elevator. Whether in the Treasury, Foreign Affairs, or in the other ministries, there is always an elevator reserved for those who have keys, a privilege of their position, exactly as one sets aside a bathroom for the Makaya's and another one for the high-grade employees.

The problem is that the other elevator often breaks down because it carries hundreds of persons every day while the first one, luxurious, well polished and well maintained, serves only about ten times at the most.

There is even talk of installing locked elevators in two-story buildings. If the elevators are installed for the people who have trouble walking or breathing or for older visitors, that is understandable; but when people in good health, strong, good eaters, pay themselves elevators at government's expense to mark their position, that is too much.

Then, when will elevators and bathrooms be democratized?

For me, that is it...

9341
CSO: 4400

PARATROOPERS' GRADUATION REPORTED

Libreville L'UNION in French 1 Sep 80 p 4

[Article by Mathurin Mihindou]

[Excerpts] There were two military ceremonies at Libreville on 29 and 30 August, 1980. The first one at camp Aissat where 12 Gabonese student officers of the Meknes Royal Academy of War (Morocco) received last Friday their paratroopers certificates in the presence of Col Maj Ella Abessolo, deputy chief of staff of land and sea forces [FTN].

The second ceremony which was a changing of the guard took place the next morning at the N'Tchorere camp, where Lt Maj Pambo Bouanga Teddy took charge of the FTN company of circulation and transportation.

Presided by Col Maj Ella Abessolo, deputy chief of staff, that ceremony was attended by several FTN high officers including Commanders-Major Oyini and Sipanio, and Captains Ratanga and Bouvier.

Colonel-Major Ella who was representing chief of staff Idriss Ngari, tied up elsewhere, praised the bravery of the students and their sense of discipline and urged them to follow that path until the end of their training.

The next day, at 800 hours, during a ceremony presided this time by Lieutenant Colonel Likassa, at camp N'Tchorere, Lt Maj Pambo Bouanga Teddy took charge of the FTN Company of Circulation and Transportation of land and sea forces (CCT). He replaced in this post Lt Irene Boudd'hou, assigned to the main workshop of the first military region.

9341
CSO: 4400

CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF PREJUDICE CONDEMNED

Libreville L'UNION in French 2 Sep 80 p 1

[Article by Makaya]

[Text] Only yesterday I read with my own eyes and heard with my own ears a strange announcement which searched for a Gabonese citizen "of the bandjabi race."

I am going to have to review my elementary courses in human geography because, at the time I went to school, the books taught us that there were only four races: white, black, yellow and red.

Then I learned while sipping my Regab that there is a bandjabi race; thus, I suppose there are also fang, pounou, bakota, myene and bateke races. I believed that there were only ethnika and that, anyway, for politeness, you asked people where they come from and not what their race is.

It must be said that the person who put the announcement is a foreigner and has not yet understood what is happening in mysterious Africa, as it is said of the Asiatic that he is impenetrable and of the Arab that he is fanatic. My God! How many prejudices must yet be destroyed for the welfare and the peace of all of us. For me, that's it.

9341

CSO: 4400

LIBERIA

BRIEFS

NEW PUBLIC WORKS MINISTER--Monrovia, 1 Oct (AFP)--Liberia's ruling People's Redemption Council (PRC) has named Thomas Boker as public works minister in place of Gabriel Tucker, who has been in the United States since the end of May, it was learned today. Mr Tucker was one of only three former ministers retained by the PRC after the April 12 military coup and assassination of President William Tolbert. He headed an official mission to the U.S. in May, and in August an official spokesman said that he was still there receiving medical treatment. There was no official explanation for today's move. [Text] [AB011818 Paris AFP in English 1755 GMT 1 Oct 80]

CSO: 4420

READER'S REACTION TO SPEECH ON STATE ENTERPRISES

Vakar AFRICA in French Aug-Sep 80 p 6

[Text] For the nth time, the tenth, twentieth, thirtieth time, another high Malian official tells us that he has firmly decided to eliminate laxity in the Malian state enterprises. We Malians are so accustomed to these declarations of intent that we would really have been surprised, and even upset, if these declarations were accompanied by specific measures. Would we be compelled, all of a sudden, to change our bad habits? Fortunately, the minister of industrial development has very carefully refrained from specifying the steps he intends to take to remedy the disastrous situation he is castigating. Therefore, there is no earthly reason why the deficit of the state enterprises should not continue to rise and the minister's relatives should not continue to work at their own jobs while still drawing their salaries in one or another state enterprise, as many other good Malians are doing...

[Signed] A. Cissoko, Bamako

[AFRICA's reply] It was pointed out to us once that the several thousand good Malians who work--or rather pretend to do so--in the state enterprises only represent 1 or 2 percent of the Malian people, but that they constitute 90 percent of the country's grey matter! Considering that it is this grey matter that leads nations, it is difficult to see how the situation could change! What a pity that it is used so poorly in Mali.

CSO: 4400

EDUCATION MINISTER ANNOUNCES ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS REOPENED

AB011931 Paris AFP in French 1540 GMT 1 Oct 80

[Text] Bamako, 1 October (AFP)--Lt Col Sekoy Ly, the Malian minister of education, announced on Radio Bamako on Tuesday that more than 400,000 students in the first and second cycles of elementary schools in Mali have resumed classes. On this occasion Lt Col Sekoy Ly pointed out that 14,566 pupils, that is 52 percent of the pupils who took the exam for the certificate of completion of first cycle studies, will enter the second cycle while 5,413 pupils, that is 27 percent of the pupils, have passed the exam for the Fundamental Studies Diploma (DEF).

He assured teachers that all attempts will be made within the shortest time possible for their salaries to be paid on time. He urged them to make use of their sense of duty and sacrifice against the harmful actions of disruptive elements who attempt to deflect them from their objectives. The minister also announced a new schedule and the implementation of new programs rid of numerous excess elements. He announced measures introducing field cultivation, gardening and animal husbandry in the vocational schools [ecoles fondamentales] of Mali.

The minister suggested that the establishments of secondary and higher education would be reopened in coming weeks: under conditions which I will make known to the public.

The Malian President Moussa Traore had stated on 21 September that these establishments would not be reopened until all measures had been taken to prevent a return of the disruptions which characterized the preceding scholastic year in the country.

Let us point out that these disruptions, instigated by students at the elementary and higher levels, became associated with the decision by teachers to boycott the year-end scholastic examinations in order to back demands regarding increased compensation to be paid for monitoring and correcting these examinations.

CSO: 4400

MOZAMBIQUE

ESTABLISHMENT OF U.S. BASES IN HORN OF AFRICA ATTACKED

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 6 Sep 80 p 4

[Unattributed article, reprinted from NOVOSTI: "The United States and the New Bases"]

[Text] The protest telegrams, which Ethiopian foreign affairs minister Feleke Gedle Giorgis recently sent to the secretaries-general of the UN and OAU, are absolutely well-founded and produced serious reflections regarding peace and security in the area of the Horn of Africa. As a matter of fact, the continuous incitement of separatist elements in the province of Ogaden and the armed raids which the troops of Somalia keep making on Ethiopian territory are creating an explosive situation in that part of the world which at any moment is liable to trigger a new war and to cause countless suffering for the peaceful populations that are already stricken by severe disasters.

It is a matter of profound regret that the Mogadishu government has chosen to ignore the concrete proposals made by Ethiopia aimed at the restoration of peace and stability and based on respect for the principles of territorial integrity, refraining from the use of force, as well as noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries. The concern expressed in Addis Ababa is certainly well founded in view of the possible evolution of developments; but no less legitimate is its warning that it will make use of its right to take measures aimed at its own defense, as provided for under Article 51 of the UN Charter.

It is symptomatic that this tension is getting worse in the Horn of Africa at the precise moment when the Pentagon is seeking new naval and air bases in the Persian Gulf, in the Red Sea, and in the Indian Ocean, facilities which it needs so much to exercise control over maritime traffic and even more so in order to create a "buffer belt" against the advance of the national liberation movement. In its pursuit of these goals, the Pentagon cannot fail to look into the military facilities existing on the territory of Somalia. An agreement was worked out after lengthy negotiations under whose terms the United States will use these facilities in exchange for giving Somalia a loan with which the latter would be able to buy weapons worth \$40 million in the United States.

Those \$40 million can do all kinds of things because imperialism has always tried to stir the African countries up against each other in order to pursue its own goals which are totally contrary to the interests of the African peoples. Overtones of regret are already surfacing in certain capitals. In Nairobi, which signed an identical agreement with the United States, the people are powerless as they observe how military cooperation between the United States and Somalia keeps growing and how the war-making potential of the Somali regime keeps growing, according to the magazine L'AFRIQUE NOUVELLE. Similar machinations--the magazine emphasizes--will not fail to trigger a new military conflict as a consequence of the open encouragement of Somalia's expansionist ambitions concerning the territory of Kenya.

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CSO: 4401

MOZAMBIQUE

STUDENT IN CUBA COMPLAINS OF LACK OF MAIL, NEWS FROM HOME

Maputo TEMPO in Portuguese 7 Sep 80 p 42

[Letter by Antonio Jose Nhamposse, Student, ITT, Republic of Cuba]

[Text] I have been in the Republic of Cuba for about a year in order to accomplish the biggest task which the party and the government of the People's Republic of Mozambique assigned to me, that is to say, to be a student during the period of 1979-1982 in order to get technical and professional training in the sugar industry.

The main question which makes me write this letter to the monthly magazine TEMPO deals with my correspondence with my family. Ever since I came here to Cuba I have received only one letter from my father.

I would like to know who is responsible for that--the CTT [Post Office, Telegraph, and Telephone Department] or my family?

Another factor of considerable concern deals with news; I am talking here about news from Mozambique. This is true of the magazine TEMPO and the newspaper NOTICIAS because we must know just exactly how the RPM [People's Republic of Mozambique] wants to promote its economic and social development. In the sports sector we get news only from other comrades who come from Mozambique and who tell us that the RPM will compete this year in the world soccer championships.

But we do not know what really goes on right now. We watched the Olympic Games on Cuban TV and we saw the Mozambican delegation. We then asked the news agencies to send us copies of the magazine TEMPO and the newspaper NOTICIAS for the period of 1980-1982. I am waiting for your positive or negative answer. In conclusion, we want to hail the FPLM [Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique] for having driven out the criminals and bandits who wanted to rob and murder the population.

We are sending good wishes to FPLM and we do not forget that they are defenders of the gains of the Mozambican people from Rovuma to Maputo.

Please excuse any mistakes of any kind whatsoever. This is because I have already begun to mix my language up with Spanish and English.

Antonio Jose Nhamposse, Student, ITT, Republic of Cuba.

Editor's Note

We have forwarded this reader's request to the National Sugar Institute, the agency with which he is necessarily connected because of the nature of his functions.

It must be pointed out that we have received many letters from Cuba by Mozambicans who are there and who are asking for correspondence with their families as well as news about life in the country.

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CSO: 4401

MOZAMBIQUE

MOTHERS', CHILDREN'S HEALTH AFFECTED BY DROUGHT

Maputo TEMPO in Portuguese 7 Sep 80 p 10

[Text] Drought means lack of water and food shortage. What are the consequences of these events in the human individual?

In order to investigate the nutrition situation of the people in zones stricken by the drought, a special nutrition mission, from the Health Ministry, visited the province of Inhambane, which is considered the most hard-hit, in May.

Alida Remmenwaal and Ana Rodriguez, both of whom are medical nutrition experts connected with the National Directorate of Preventive Medicine, were members of the Health Ministry mission which in May went to the drought-stricken zones in the province of Inhambane. We were able to draw the following conclusions from their statements to TEMPO: about 27 percent of children up to the age of 5 years weigh less than 90 percent of what they should weigh; among children between the ages of 5 and 10 years, about 43 percent do not reach 90 percent of the required standard weight. Signs of anemia and conjunctivitis have also been detected in a considerable number of children in these two age groups which are most sensitive to the lack of water and food shortages.

In summary, some of the natural consequences of water and food shortages are as follows:

In children, there is malnutrition, serious anemia, dehydration, avitaminosis, skin diseases, conjunctivitis, an increase in the prenatal and infant mortality rate, as well as retardation in physical and mental growth.

In mothers we find premature births, a rise in the number of stillborn, spontaneous abortions, serious anemia, reduction in milk for nursing purposes, decline in the number of births in maternity wards.

This situation leads us to assume that the permanent effect in the long run will be the retardation of the children's physical and mental development.

At the time when the team from the Health Ministry visited the drought areas in Inhambane, milk production in nursing mothers had a tendency to

decline. This situation demonstrated the poor nutritional situation of the women which leads us to conclude that the number of abortions and premature births will also be higher.

5058
CSO: 4401

MOZAMBIQUE

AGRICULTURAL MEASURES ADOPTED TO COMBAT DROUGHT

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 5 Sep 80 p 1

[Text] Beira, 4 September (Delegation)--In order to cope with the drought, the Subcommittee on Natural Disasters, supported by technicians connected with the Department of Agriculture, are to start working in all of the districts of Manica starting tomorrow, 5 September.

This measure is only one of the responses already made in order to minimize and if possible to eliminate in this region the serious problem which arose as a result of the drought and the threat which still exists regarding the results of the 1979-1980 harvest season.

The decision immediately to create these district agencies was the result of the first enlarged meeting of the provincial government of Manica whose work, under the direction of governor Manuel Antonio, ended last Wednesday night.

Consisting of six members, specifically, the district administrator, the district secretary for party organization, the district directors of agriculture and of the communal villages, and two deputies from the assembly on the respective level, the natural disaster subcommittees must, without losing any time, launch specific efforts so as to expand the organization of the population in response to this scourge of drought.

In line with the resolutions adopted at the above-mentioned meeting, these subcommittees are to organize the people for the production of corn, cassava, nhemba, beans, mebure, madume, squash, and other products which can grow when there is little or no rainfall.

According to one of the guidelines, "the agricultural cooperatives must play a preponderant role in this effort, opening up more machamba [citrus] plantations and using available natural resources for this purpose, especially rivers, lakes, and small dams. In addition to serving for local supply, these products must be shipped to districts hit by this disaster."

This important provincial meeting however also spelled out specific tasks for the agriculture sector which must support this effort, utilizing the experience and knowledge of available technicians, in addition to furnishing seeds and work instruments, especially hoes and plows.

The subcommittees must implement these guidelines between 10 and 15 September; all districts must, in their next report, indicate the agricultural production targets in terms of hectares, as part of the decisions that came out of this provincial meeting.

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CSO: 4401

MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

JAPANESE RICE IMPORTS--A new shipment of rice, totaling 10,060 tons, imported from Japan, will reach the country on 25 September, as part of a trade agreement signed between the governments of Mozambique and Japan. This rice, which comes in 167,400 sacks, is intended for the supply of the population in various provinces of the country and was loaded in two Japanese ports on the vessel "Kous Island," chartered by ANFRENA (National Charter and Navigation Agency). According to reports confirmed by an ANFRENA official, the ship has already left the port of Jokkaichi on 31 August and its arrival in the Mozambican port of Nacala is expected on 25 September. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 5 Sep 80 p 2] 5058

USSR DROUGHT DONATION--Soviet Ambassador to Mozambique Valentin Petrovich Vdovin today handed President Samora Machel a donation valued at 420,000 meticals to support drought victims. The donation consisted of contributions by Soviet diplomats and co-workers in the People's Republic of Mozambique. The donation was made at a ceremony held at the presidency of the republic. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 1 Oct 80 EA]

CSO: 4401

NAMIBIA

BRIEFS

NOVEMBER ELECTIONS--Southwesters now know when they will be voting. The AG [administrator general] announced the date on Friday: the polls will be open 11-13 November. That means, in less than six weeks. It has been nearly two years since whites last voted. And the last election to designate members for the Legislative Assembly was in 1974. So it is understandable that the party organization has not been fully engaged for a couple of years. Besides, from the time of the so-called one-person-one-vote-election in 1978 until quite recently there had not been much certainty about an election. Meanwhile international footdragging continued and uncertainty increased. But now the voting date is set and for the National Party and its organizations this means full steam ahead. [Text] [Windhoek DIE SUIDWESTER in Afrikaans 8 Sep 80 p 4]

CSO: 4408

PRESIDENT SHAGARI OUTLINES ACHIEVEMENTS, POLICIES

AB791230 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 29 Sep 80

[Press Conference by Nigerian President Shehu Shagari on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of Nigeria's national independence and the beginning of the 2d year of the presidential system of government--live]

[Excerpts] Ladies and gentlemen: As you are aware, activities marking the celebration of the 20th anniversary of our independence have begun. We are also witnessing the beginning of the 2d year of our experience of the presidential system of government in this country. I want us together to take stock generally and to examine our achievements and problems so as to enable us to enter the 3rd decade of our independence with greater hope and determination to deal with our problems as a nation and to play our role effectively as a member of the international community of nations.

As a nation, we have defined new goals and established new directions designed to make it possible for us to live in harmony and to ensure the survival of Nigeria as a united and truly independent country. We have also laid the foundation of a truly good and democratic government on the basis of liberty for the individual, equality and justice for all. Since assuming office, self-reliance has been the chief objective of our administration. In pursuance of this objective, I desire to inform the nation and the whole world that the highest priority problems of the present administration are food, shelter and qualitative education. These are consistent with our promises to the people during our electioneering campaign. In enumerating some of our achievements during the year, I would like to start with these three programs.

The green revolution is no longer a theory but a practical national commitment. Appreciating the fact that the vast majority of our people, as farmers, live and work in the rural areas, we have accordingly addressed ourselves to the task of improving their productive capacity and their standard of living. For example, the supplies to farmers all over the country of pesticides, improved seeds and fertilizers at heavily subsidized prices have gone a long way to increase their production. Another important element in the green revolution program is the provision of infrastructural facilities such as feeder roads, rural water supply and health schemes. In

the financial aspect, we have deliberately liberalized credit facilities for agricultural projects. From 1 October 1979 to the end of July 1980, the Nigerian Agricultural and Cooperative Bank has given approval to more than 600 various agricultural projects spread over 17 states with a combined commitment of nearly 50 million naira, out of which over 26 million naira has already been disbursed.

In our program for water resources, contracts have been awarded for the Lower Anambra irrigation scheme, the (Dadin Towa) Dam, the (Dona) Dam and the (Shobe) Dam. Construction has started on the (Gorencon) and (Chalawa) Dams. When completed, these projects are expected to produce about 200,000 hectares of irrigation land and 1 million tons of assorted food crops. The (Oyan) Dam, which will supply water to both the Abeokuta and Lagos areas and provide 2,000 hectares of irrigated land, is 50 percent completed. The Sokoto River Basin Development Authority has provided employment for about 4,000 inhabitants, while the Bakalori project in the same state has produced 3,200 tons of wheat, 3,360 tons of maize, 960 tons of tomatoes and 800 tons of onions during the year. This administration has decided to establish a national council on water resources to coordinate and harmonize policies and plans on the nation's water provision and management. Massive rural water schemes have already been started in which 80 boreholes will be constructed in each state of the federation. Already, 40 of these have been successfully completed in Borno State under a technical agreement with the Chinese government. A national water resources institute has been established in Kaduna to train the much-needed manpower.

Housing: The implementation of the federal government's policy on housing, in which 2,000 housing units will be constructed in each state, has commenced and has been acclaimed. Once again, let me invite the cooperation of all states to give their maximum support and cooperation to this program which is so vital to the generality of Nigerians. Furthermore, financial arrangements for the participation of the Federal Mortgage Bank and the world bank's urban development project in the housing scheme for lower income earners have reached an advanced stage. It is envisaged that as soon as these arrangements are concluded, the program will take off.

Education: This administration has inherited educational policies which are being redesigned to conform with the qualitative educational policy. The aim here is to provide a functional and practical education which will make our people responsive to our needs. So far, enrollment in primary education has risen from 8 million to 11.5 million. Secondary and technical institutions are being established at the same time to meet the increasing number of students from our primary schools. In order to cope with the need for more teachers, the federal government has granted state governments 18.25 million naira to establish new teacher training colleges and to expand the existing ones. As a result of the priority we attach to technical education, we have concrete plans to establish one technical school in each state of the federation before the end of 1981. As a result of this, the present practice of sending our boys overseas for vocational and technical training not so relevant to our needs and circumstances will be phased out. As of now, Nigeria has seven federal polytechnics. Plans are being made to ensure that each state has at least one federal polytechnic.

At the university level, seven federal universities of technology will be established in Bauchi, Benue, Imo, Gongola, Ondo, Niger and Ogun States. Those in Imo, Benue and Bauchi will take off this fiscal year. Those in Gongola and Ondo states will take off in 1981, while those in Niger and Ogun states will start in 1982. To ensure that higher education comes at the door step of all deserving Nigerians, work is going on for the establishment of the open university. This will come to reality in October 1981. The existing 11 universities have received grants totaling 350 million naira for 1980 to enable them to cope with their [word indistinct] and development plans. By 1981, the total bursary and post graduate awards will rise from 1,444 to 2,000 at a cost of 9.3 million naira.

Health services: This administration attaches great importance to the provision of adequate, efficient and effective preventive and curative health services throughout the country. To achieve this objective, the existing teaching hospitals at Ibadan, Lagos, Benin, Enugu and Ife are being expanded to cope with the training needs of the medical profession. New teaching hospitals under construction at Zaria, Maiduguri, Sokoto, Ilorin and Calabar are progressing satisfactorily. A national eye center in Kaduna is under construction which, when completed, will cost 19 million naira. The federal government has also approved the upgrading of the general hospitals at Jos, Calabar and Ilorin to the status of teaching hospitals. In the rural areas, the federal government has built and equipped 11 comprehensive health centers, 24 primary health clinics and 362 health clinics at a cost of 3.05 million naira in six states of the federation to supplement state efforts. Plans have been completed for the establishment of a food and drugs institute at Kaduna to train personnel needed for the control of food poisoning, drug abuse and the quality of imported drugs.

To further reduce our overdependence on foreign drugs, six of our old teaching hospitals have embarked on a program of producing common drugs in their own laboratories.

Science and technology: As a result of the creation of the federal ministry of science and technology, incentives are now open to Nigerians with the requisite talent to invest and translate theoretical results of scientific research into practical application. It is noteworthy that the veterinary center at Vom will soon start the production of cattle and poultry vaccines. Similarly, the institute for oil palm research has developed a [word indistinct] oil palm with early and high-yielding potential to accelerate palm oil and palm kernel production in the country.

Industry: Iron and steel development--this administration is conscious of the fact that our scientific, technological and industrial development will not be possible without an iron and steel industry. Every support, therefore, is being given to the execution of our two iron and steel projects. At Ajaokuta, the contract for the civil work for the main steel plant has been awarded. By 1983, it is expected that the two priority rolling mills of the plant will be commissioned. Contracts have also been awarded for

the construction of 8,000 staff housing units, which will be completed in 1981. Much more than at Ajaokuta, greater achievements have been made at (Alaja), where the initial civil work is nearing completion. [passage omitted] It is hoped that the (Alaja) steel project will be commissioned in 1981.

In the field of industrial development generally, within our first year in office we have formulated an industrial policy which will serve as a useful guide to investors. Plans are aimed at laying emphasis on agro-allied and energy related industries [few words indistinct]. As for now, a general map covering more than 60 percent of the whole country has been produced. That is a mineral map. Data is now available for mineral exploration, soil surveys and for the evaluation of water resources. Such data is a prerequisite for effective national planning for our country's resources. Exploration of uranium, phosphate and salt deposits is continuing and the preliminary mapping of the iron ore and marble recently discovered near Abuja has begun. Efforts will continue to be made to identify and locate other materials or minerals so as to reduce overdependence on oil.

The National Electric Power Authority (NEPA) is intensifying its efforts to increase power supply for distribution throughout the country. NEPA's electrification program for rural areas aims at electrifying all local government headquarters and connecting them to the national grid.

Transport and communications: In order to meet the infrastructural requirements of the nation for our economic development and the general mobility of our people, the present administration continues to give greater attention to land, sea and air transportation. While the existing airports are being expanded and equipped with essential navigation aids, the federal government is giving great attention to the development of new ones at Akure, Owerri, Minna and Bauchi. The services now being provided by the Nigerian airways can hardly cope with the explosion in demand both on the domestic and international routes. In order to alleviate the problem, four new 737 aircraft now on order will soon be delivered. To further improve on our seaports, contracts have been awarded to build a new port costing 48.6 million Naira at Sapele and another at Bonny at a cost of 130 million naira. Nigeria's merchant shipping activities have sharply risen as a result of the expansion of the fleet of the Nigerian national shipping line.

During the period under review, in the area of telecommunications, 20 new automatic telephone exchanges have been commissioned, providing 66,500 telephone lines, all with subscriber trunk dialing facilities. At the same time, 2,000 lines of telex [word indistinct] services have also been commissioned.

In order to ease traffic and improve on federal highways, this administration has completed the construction of over 1,500 kilometers of roads. Additionally, arrangements have already been completed for the rehabilitation and special maintenance of 14 roads totalling more than 1,600 kilometers, while tenders are being reviewed for the construction of 11 other roads and four major bridges throughout the country.

in social welfare, one of the significant steps taken by this administration has been the granting of autonomous status to the center for black and African arts and civilization. This arts center has already served 15,000 visitors and researchers from all over the world and has continued to earn for Nigeria the pride of being the custodian of black civilization.

Law and order: I now want to touch on another vital issue. This is the area of law and order. Since the change from the military to civilian administration with the consequent return of the military to the barracks, the duty and responsibility of maintaining law and order in the country has devolved on the Nigeria police force. It became necessary, therefore, to expand the police force. Since October last year, over 6,900 personnel, including about 100 university graduates, have been recruited and trained. Every effort is being made to provide our police force with sufficient modern weapons and equipment, including vehicles. The various steps that are being taken are aimed at enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the police in discharging their duties in a world in which people are becoming more and more criminally minded.

The economic situation: During the year under review, our general economic performance has shown a marked improvement as compared with the 2 preceding years. Arising from the improved infrastructural facilities and the import liberalization policy introduced with regard to raw materials and spare parts, output in the industrial sector increased by about 10 percent over the previous level. The continued rise in the price of crude oil has resulted in a balance of payments surplus in the year 1980 in spite of the slight cut in production and the high level of our inputs. By way of simple comparison, our foreign reserves in October last year stood at about 3 billion naira. Today it stands at about 5.2 billion naira. Through prudent financial management, this administration, which inherited a deficit of 1.4 billion naira in its current account on its assumption of office on October 1979, has as at the end of July 1980 achieved a surplus of 2.4 billion naira. Available data for the first half of 1980 points to a decrease in the rate of inflation.

In contrast to the previous inflexible position with regard to salaries and wages under the former regime, this administration has adopted a flexible medium term approach to the wage (?)problem). Under the current wage guidelines, employers and employees are permitted to negotiate changes in salaries and wages within prescribed limits for the period 1980 to 1982. The merit of this scheme is obvious. It will allow for free collective bargaining between workers and employers and lay down sound foundations for cooperation by both sides.

At the international level, we have been very active as a member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, OPEC. Only recently, we participated effectively in an effort to evolve a long-term oil price strategy within the auspices of that international organization.

Foreign policy--in the area of foreign policy, we remain wholly committed to the total eradication of colonialism and racism. With the recent liberation of Zimbabwe, the task of liberating Namibia this year becomes even more urgent. The racist, ruthless and minority regime of South Africa must be made to abandon its apartheid policy and to respect the right of the Azanians to self-determination. Of equal concern to us are the current conflicts raging in some regions of the continent. In Chad, the Ogaden region and western Sahara, blood is being shed. Nigeria condemns in clear terms any impediment to the peaceful settlement of these conflicts. We will continue to offer our good offices under the auspices of the OAU for the amicable resolution of these disputes. Our country has played and is still playing an active role in the liberation struggle and the economic emancipation of the African continent. For example, Nigeria initiated and hosted the first African economic summit held in Lagos under the auspices of the OAU, culminating in the Lagos plan of action aimed at the eventual evolution of an African economic community on a continental scale. I believe our administration can justly claim some degree of credit for its initiative and sense of progress.

In the global field, our nonaligned policy and posture will be pursued and maintained. In addition, we believe that the possession of nuclear and chemical weapons is a threat to peace and international security and will always support any effort toward effective disarmament.

In the Middle East, Nigeria believes that the issue of a homeland for the Palestinians and their inalienable right to self-determination cannot be negotiable. We cannot support the decision of Israel to change the status of the old city of Jerusalem.

Defense--in order to give real meaning to our economic and foreign policy posture, we need a well equipped and highly disciplined defense force to enable us to defend our national interests. Consequently, the present administration is committed to the building of a modern, self-reliant, combat-ready and well motivated armed forces. Some of the most sophisticated warships this country has ever acquired have been delivered. For the country's land and air defenses, this administration has also embarked on the procurement of most modern assault military hardware. With regard to the welfare of the members of the armed forces, much has been done. Steps have been taken to eliminate the undesirable delays previously experienced over the payment of pensions and other retirement benefits. Problems of accommodation are being tackled. Necessary directives have been given for the speedy implementation of salary adjustments to reflect the 100 [Naira] minimum wage. This is in addition to the new fringe benefits introduced by this administration such as transport allowance and rent allowance for the armed forces, the same benefits are also applicable to the members of the police force. It is pertinent to state that those to whom the heavy responsibility of defending this nation has been entrusted deserve and will always receive our attention.

I might at this point say a few words about the fourth estate of the realm, the media. This civilian administration believes in and respects the freedom of the press. In any true democracy, the press has a heavy responsibility.

They are expected to serve as the watchdog of the public. In exercising this responsibility, they also have certain obligations, namely: objectivity in their reporting and, above all respect for the national interest and security.

Ladies and gentlemen, I have just given you a brief account of the activities of the federal government for the past 1 year. Ours is a rewarding experience in the management of a big country such as Nigeria. I conclude by reiterating my invitation to every Nigerian to join hands with us in the very important task of building a great nation of which we can all be proud. Thank you very much.

[Press secretary to the president]: Ladies and gentlemen, copies of that statement will be distributed shortly. In the meantime you may ask your questions. And please identify yourselves.

[Question] Mr president, my name is Chris (Obafe Izuzua), a representative of [few words indistinct]. On the NNPC [Nigerian National Petroleum] I would like to know what steps the government has taken to recover the 120 million barrels of oil from the three oil companies. [sentence indistinct]

[Question] [indistinct]

[Answer] The question of recovery of the oil is something that is arranged between us and the oil companies concerned. And this is something that we do normally. The companies are already producing and as they produce they will provide what is required from time to time until we recover what is due from each company concerned. On the matter of the board members of the NNPC, you know that the board has been suspended. Both the board and the former managing director are under suspension and the government is considering whether to reinstate them or whether we should [?avoid] the board and start a new one. We are now in the process of reorganizing the NNPC as I have stated in my statement that we want to make it a kind of interim holding company with subsidiaries--four other companies--which will be created. We have engaged the services of consultants who are going to advise us on how to set up this new organization. And it is when we come to set up this new organization that we will determine what to do with those under suspension.

The third question is appointment of ambassadors. Yes, our list of ambassadors is now being completed and presently the candidates are being screened. In fact, the interviews have started this morning of all those who are eligible to be ambassadors. We want to make sure that all those we put forward get through easily in the senate. That is why we are screening them before we send their names to the senate.

[Question] [indistinct]

[Answer] There is the law which will take care of criminals and I think there are sufficient provisions in our laws to deal with such situations. The reason why we released these people is that we thought that the law

under which they were convicted was not justified. And under a civilian regime we do not want to introduce laws which are inimical to human rights. At the same time, we realize the gravity of offenses such as these but, as I have said, I think we have sufficient provisions in our laws to deal with such situations. But it is not only law alone that is required to suppress this kind of crime in a country like ours. It is mainly through encouraging people on honest dealings and discouraging dishonesty in all its ramifications. I have always complained that the attitude of Nigerians toward dishonesty has a lot to be desired. I think if we abhor dishonesty, we will get less of dishonest people.

[Question] [Sentence Indistinct] Up till now, we have not heard about anything happening to JAMB [Joint Admissions Matriculation Board] and we saw that JAMB still exists. What is delaying the measure, sir?

[Answer] What?

[Question] I mean the announcement early this year that you are going to scrap JAMB and up till now nothing has been heard. We want to know what is delaying the measure.

[Answer] Well, we have made the decision that JAMB is to be scrapped. What is left, I think, is the law itself. But as far as we are concerned, JAMB has been scrapped and the universities are doing the admission. But because JAMB has started already some processing of these things, they were allowed to assist the universities. But after that JAMB will just phase out.

[Question] I do not know. What is the attorney general doing about the law of the JAMB? Have you got the bill for that?

[Answer] The bill about the JAMB is ready but it is not being passed by the house yet.

[Question] You spoke of the green revolution and the many efforts your administration is doing in building irrigation and in giving farmers loans. These are very good especially in theory, experience has shown that many farmers--the majority of them--have not felt any impact of this so-called green revolution. Please, what is your administration doing to let it go to the grass root level, especially my poor father who is still doing the farming with the crude hoe?

[Answer] Well, are you complaining about the fact [laughter]--about the distribution of fertilizer or [sentence not completed]

[Question] I am complaining that it is only in paper or radio that we are hearing of the green revolution and that it has not gone down to the grass roots, that it has not gone down to the real farmers who are in the majority.

[Answer] Well, I think that is your opinion but I know that a lot has been done to assist the ordinary farmer. A lot of inputs have been distributed by the state governments, by the cooperatives, and assistance to farmers is not just the distribution of fertilizers and pesticides which, in any case, one cannot expect that every farmer from the first year will receive adequate supplies. We are just beginning. But lots of them have benefitted from this. But there are many other ways in which farmers can be assisted. Some of them are getting loans to improve their farming. Some of them are getting some farming equipment and implements to buy at subsidized prices. Some of them are also getting the services of extension workers who teach them to improve the methods of farming. And then there are efforts that are being made which indirectly assist the farmer although maybe now he does not see it directly--like the improvement of seeds and seedlings which will have better yield than what he is doing. All these things are being done and you cannot expect everyone to get the benefits from the very first year. But the impact of all this will come when you harvest and you find that the total output is much higher than what you are used to. For agriculture in general is not something from which you get quick results. Things take a little time but I can assure you that quite a lot is being done. But it is impossible for everyone to get the benefits right from the beginning; but eventually everybody will benefit.

[Question] [passage indistinct] And finally, what kind of involvement is Nigeria going to have in freeing Namibia before the end of the year?

[Answer] Well, on the question of being in the nuclear club, we have not reached that stage as yet and everything depends upon developments in the international community. We are opposed to the proliferation of nuclear weapons and we are party to agreements about [sentence not completed]. Well, I wanted to get the thing quite clear. We do not belong to the nuclear club but I say we are watching developments in the international community. We are for peace but we are being threatened by enemies of freedom--racist South Africa which is a danger and a threat to this continent. And we see that they are being assisted to develop nuclear power to the detriment of the African continent. We want to do whatever we can to discourage this development but if they persist and become a danger to our own security and existence, of course we reserve the right to do whatever we can to protect our own interests. That is why I cannot rule out the possibility of Nigeria being interested in this as long as South Africa insists on developing nuclear weapons against Africa. We just cannot sit back. But as I said from the beginning, we want peace and we will work for peace and, through the international community, we will continue to exert pressure to see that South Africa does not continue in its wanton efforts to frighten the African continent.

On the other matter concerning development in Cameroon, like any good neighbour we do not want to hear any problems in any of our neighboring countries. But we cannot interfere in the internal affairs of any country, much less a friendly country. We tried in Chad when the trouble erupted there to try to help to keep peace, but we will never interfere in the internal affairs

of any country. The small misunderstandings about border disputes between our two countries is something that worries us and we will always try to settle this amicably through discussions with our neighbors. And we shall continue to pursue this kind of approach in the peaceful settlement of disputes. What is the other point?

[Journalist] Namibia.

[Answer] On Namibia, well you know what is going on concerning the efforts by the United Nations concerning Namibia and it is our hope that these efforts will be fruitful. Nigeria's stand is to try and bring in or put pressure on the countries concerned in this settlement so that they will put more pressure on South Africa to see reason. At the same time, we are giving necessary assistance to the freedom fighters in Namibia morally and materially to pursue their good cause. If negotiations fail, they will have to fight on and liberate themselves as others have done and Nigeria will continue to give them every assistance as Nigeria has been doing with the others who had fought and attained their independence.

[Question] [Sentence indistinct] I am referring to shelter, food and qualitative education. Now under these programs--under these three cardinal programs--which one of them would you say this government [few words indistinct].

[Answer] [Sentence indistinct] They do not know that food has to be grown first. You do not feed people by importing food for them. That is not our way of green revolution. Many people complain that there is no rice and they expect us to produce all the rice that is required, which we are trying to do; but we have to wait for the harvest. But people want us to import a lot of food in order to feed the nation. Now if this nation is to depend on imported food, then it will not be a viable nation. So, we want to make it quite clear that our green revolution program is aimed at stopping food importation so that we will produce enough ourselves. But that will be achieved not in the first few months of the administration. Nobody can expect that. So if people will understand this and cooperate with the government in our efforts to increase production, then things will be alright. But nobody should expect us to just depend on the importation of food.

In the provision of shelter [few words indistinct], we need to have very close cooperation with the state governments and local governments. Of course, they are more directly concerned in this affair. And where we do not get full cooperation, we are not likely to get 100 percent success. But I am happy to say that we are getting cooperation in most places in this country in our programs of green revolution and in our program for providing shelter. There are a few places where we are not able to obtain land but I do not think that this is an insurmountable problem. In most places where these problems exist, we have been able to solve them amicably. But as I said, we need the full cooperation of the state governments in order to achieve our objectives.

On education, it is also the same. We need the cooperation of the state governments, particularly in areas where it is their responsibility. For example in primary education: The federal government gives a lot of assistance

in primary education which is primarily the responsibility of the state governments and the local government. So on the whole, as I said, we have not faced any serious problems in these priority programs of ours. The little problems we have, we have been able to solve a lot of them.

[Question] [passage indistinct] I want to ask whether or not the present administration thinks of the possibility of making this request. I am not suggesting that you insert it in your speech at the United Nations next week but I think it should be a viable possibility for Nigeria to think of asking for a permanent seat in the Security Council. This is because Nigeria has been playing a very vital role in international affairs generally and our position in Africa, I think, has given us a stature that should require that we get a permanent membership of the Security Council.

[Answer] On your first question on a permanent seat, I think this is a thing which concerns the Third World countries who are collectively concerned with the matter of having a permanent seat. Nigeria will, together with other African countries, demand a permanent seat in the Security Council. But Nigeria will not say we are going to take it, although I believe we deserve it. But it depends upon the collective will of our sister African countries because in the United Nations, we work together with our sister countries and it is the collective will of these countries that there should be a permanent seat. If they like Nigeria to represent them, Nigeria will be honored to do so.

CSO: 4420

NIGERIA

BRIEFS

TECHNOLOGICAL TRAINING PLANS--Plans are under way to establish specialized training facilities in various technological disciplines proposed for the country. Such facilities will be geared toward the provision of technological inputs based on the specific needs of the country. The vice president, Dr Alex Ekueme, announced this in Lagos today when the special representative of the Indian prime minister, Mr (Swaran Singh), paid him a courtesy visit. Dr Ekueme pointed out that the greatest problem facing the country is the enormous amount being spent on the importation of plant and equipment, most of which could not be deemed suitable for local needs. [Excerpt] [AB182246 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 18 Sep 80]

DEEP SEA PORT--The country's first deep sea port, estimated at 130 million naira, is now being built by the Nigerian ports authority, NPA, at Bonny near Port Harcourt, River State. The minister of transport, Alhaji Jimayo Diko, who announced this at a news conference to mark the silver jubilee anniversary of the authority in Lagos yesterday, said that when completed the multipurpose port would serve the needs of the Ajaokuta Steel Mill. He said the port would have a total of six berths with roll-on and roll-off facilities. The minister disclosed that another contract for the construction of a major port at Sapele has just been awarded as part of the federal government's program of intensive development of inland waterways. The Sapele Port, he added, will cost 48 million naira and will be completed within 2 years. [Excerpt] [Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 17 Sep 80 AB]

GVERNMENT RELEASES RICE SUPPLY--The federal government has released about 26,000 tons of rice to all the state governments. This is part of the efforts by the present administration to reduce the current high prices of the commodity. This is contained in a statement issued yesterday from the executive office of the president. According to the statement, the various governments are expected to sell the commodity at 28 naira per bag wholesale and 30 naira per bag retail for the Thailand brand. For the U.S. brand, it is to be sold at 30 naira per bag wholesale and 35 naira retail. The statement, however, notes that import licences for rice have not been issued to anybody since the beginning of this year. [Text] [AB230717 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 23 Sep 80]

BRIEFS

NEW ARMY APPOINTMENTS--Lt Col Amegee Yao Mawulikplimi has been appointed deputy chief of staff of the TAT (Togolese Armed Forces), replacing Col Assilah who had retired for reasons of health. Lt Col Mawulikplimi is former commander of the second joint forces regiment in Lama-Kara (in the northern part of the country). Cols Chango Baudadi and Kongo Koffi were appointed military chief of cabinet to the presidency of the Republic and Inspector of the Togolese forces respectively. [Text] [Dakar AFRICA in French Aug-Sep 80 p 13]

CSD: 4400

MINISTER TIBERONDWA APPEALS FOR END TO NCC BOYCOTT

LD-31538 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 23 Sep 80 EA

[Excerpt] The Minister of Culture and Community Development, Dr Abonia Tiberondwa, has appealed to the Democratic Party [DP] and the Uganda Patriotic Movement [UPM] members of the National Consultative Council [NCC], who have boycotted the NCC sessions during the last week, to put the national interest above partisan self-consideration and resume attendance of NCC meetings.

Dr. Tiberondwa, who was addressing a mammoth rally at (Nakaseke) grounds in Fort Portal at the end of his tour of (Kabagole) District, said that although the Uganda People's Congress [UPC] members of NCC have sufficient members to enable them to transact all the NCC business on their own, the presence of members of other parties would enrich the debate dealings with legislation about the forthcoming general elections and would renew the hope to all the people of Uganda and other countries which wish Uganda well.

He said that the UPC is determined to work tirelessly with or without other parties to ensure that Ugandans choose their own leaders in free and fair general elections, adding that the people of Uganda are sick and tired of interim governments which are not in a position to make long-term plans.

Dr Tiberondwa revealed that the UPC was prepared to choose a presidential candidate as well as parliamentary candidates throughout Uganda. He challenged other party leaders who claim to be popular to come forward and stand against the UPC presidential candidate so that the people of Uganda can select their overall leader and their constituency representatives.

CSO: 4420

ZAIRE

OFFICIALS MEET TO DISCUSS SECURITY SITUATION IN KINSHASA

AB171945 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1625 GMT 17 Sep 80

[Text] Kinshasa, 17 Sep (AZAP)--Despite the few isolated incidents that have disturbed the population the past few days, all is calm in the capital and throughout the country.

That is the conclusion reached in the deliberations of the recent working session of the state commissioner for Territorial Administration, Citizen Duga Kugbe Toro; the secretary of state for this department, Citizen Bongo Legai; the mayor of the City of Kinshasa; the Kisombe political commissioner, the commander of the city and the attorney general for the Appeals Court in Kinshasa.

During the meeting, the head of the Department of Territorial Administration reminded his colleagues of the legal prerogatives in matters of the maintenance of order in general and then listened to the mayor's report on the security situation in the capital. On this issue, Mr Duga told the meeting about specific measures aimed at strengthening the activities of the administrative police in Kinshasa. The city authorities suggested that the population be made more aware of the benefits of social cohesion in confronting the criminal attacks to which it often falls victim. It was also suggested that the telephone numbers of the law enforcement agencies be widely distributed for use in case of any emergency.

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ZAIRE

BRIEFS

UK AID--As part of cooperation agreements between Great Britain and the Republic of Zaire, the British Government has granted 254,333,000 pounds sterling in aid to the Executive Council for the 1979-1980 fiscal year. Of the abovementioned amount, which will be used for the implementation of various projects concluded between Kinshasa and London, 71.33 million were earmarked for the medical and agricultural sectors, 68 million for education, 30 thousand for office equipment, 50 million for roads and bridge projects in Kivu, 50 million for the English Language Center. Another 13 million Zaire agreement was signed recently for development projects. This last amount will be given to Zaire very soon. [Kinshasa AZAP in French 1050 GMT 22 Sep 80 AB]

NEW COPPER DEPOSIT--Kinshasa, 9 Sep (ASAP)--About 200,000 tons of copper of high mineral content have been discovered in Dikulushi, northeast Shaba, where the Serem Company made some conclusive borings in 1979. An official report from SOZACOM (Zairian Company for the Marketing of Ores) giving this information adds that economic studies are underway with a view to determining whether the richness of this deposit will counterbalance the out-of-the-way geographical location. [Excerpt] [Kinshasa AZAP in French 1452 GMT 9 Sep 80 AB]

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Oct 20 1980

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